

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 169225
ORIGIN SS-15

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DRAFTED BY: D-DBRIZILL: EDH

APPROVED BYD-DENIS LAMB

S/S-O: TGMARTIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 169225

EXDIS-EYES ONLY FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

FOLLOWING REPEAT TEHRAN 6415 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ISLAMABAD PARIS
JULY 20.

QUOTE S E C R E T TEHRAN 6415

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PK US MNUC

SUBJ: PAKISTANI REPROCESSING PURCHASE

REF: (A) TEHRAN 6156, (B) ISLAMABAD 7274

1. ON INSTRUCTION OF SHAH, ACTING FONMIN ZELLI CALLED ME TO HIS
OFFICE EVENING JULY 19 TO INFORM ME OF SHAH'S CONVERSATION WITH
AGHA SHAHI ON JULY 18 CONCERNING PAKISTAN ACQUISITION OF RE-
PROCESSING PLANT FROM FRANCE. ZELLI SAID THAT SHAH HAD MADE PRE-
SENTATION ALONG LINES ANTICIPATED REF A AND HAD RECEIVED REPLY
WHICH SOUNDED LIKE A VERBATIM REPETITION OF PAPER READ TO AMB HUMMEL
AND REPORTED REF B.

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2. ZELLI SAID SHAH WAS DISAPPOINTED BY THIS REACTION BUT WOULD
CONTINUE HIS EFFORTS TO CONVINCE MILITARY COUNCIL TO "DRAG
ITS FEET". HE SAID NEW IRANIAN AMB TO PAKISTAN HAD LEFT FOR HIS
POST MORNING JULY 19 AND HAD "CERTAIN INSTRUCTIONS"
TO RAISE MATTER AGAIN AT TIME HE PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS.
(IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THIS MEANT HE WOULD RAISE IT WITH

THE PRES OR WITH GEN ZIA.)

3. SINCE ZELLI HAS JUST RETURNED FROM HIS PREVIOUS POST AS AMB TO PAKISTAN, I ASKED FOR HIS PERSONAL ASSESSMENT OF PAK POSITION. HE REPLIED THAT ISSUE HAD BECOM MATTER OF NATIONAL PRIDE AND HE DOUBTED PAKS WOULD BAK OFF UNDER PUBLIC PRESSURE. APPLICATION OF SYMINGTON AMENDMENT WOULD BE SEEN AS FORM OF PUBLIC PRESSURE.

4. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION, ZELLI SAID IT WAS HIS IMPRESSION THAT AGHA SHAHI WAS GOING ONLY TO KUWAIT BEFORE RETURNING TO ISLAMABAD. HE UNDERSTOOD THERE WERE NO PLANS FOR HIM TO VISIT PARIS ON THIS TRIP.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE SHAH STRUCK OUT THIS TIME, IT SEEMS APPARENT THAT, BECAUSE OF IRANIAN NATIONAL INTERESTS, HE WILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO DISSUADE PAKS FROM ACQUIRING REPROCESSING CAPABILITY. WHAT IS LESS CLEAR IS WHETHER HE WILL BE PREPARED TO USE HIS AID PROGRAM LEVERAGE TO BRING PRESSURE ON PAKS.

6. IN REF A, I REPORTED SHAH'S ELLIPTICAL REFERENCE TO DESIRABILITY DEPLOYING SAUDI ARABIAN INFLUENCE ON THIS SUBJECT. I WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED OF ANY ACTION WHICH DEPT DECIDES TO TAKE ALONG THAT LINE.
SGOHEEN UNQUOTE VANCE

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